

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent)
application of:)
)
Jeff R. Justis)
)
Serial No. New Application)
)
Filed Herewith)
) Atty Docket No. 4002-3415/PC977.00
INSTRUMENTS AND METHODS FOR)
SECURING A CONNECTING ELEMENT)
ALONG A BONY STRUCTURE)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

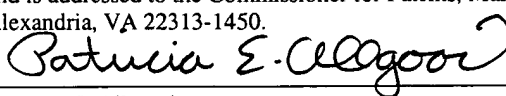
Pursuant to the duty of disclosure embodied in 37 C.F.R § 1.56 and 1.98,

Applicant discloses the following references on the attached Information Disclosure

Citation Form.

This information has not been previously submitted in this application by

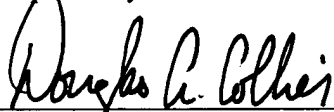
Applicant. Copies of the non-U.S. Patent references are enclosed herewith.

Express Mail Label No. EL 984 269 638 US Date of Deposit September 29, 2003
I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service
"Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR §1.10 on the date indicated above
and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Patent Application, P.O. Box 1450,
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Patricia E. Allgood

The filing of this information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56 or that any information cited is prior art.

This Statement is being submitted with the filing of the application. Therefore no fees are believed due for its consideration. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Douglas A. Collier", is written over a horizontal line.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary)				Atty. Docket No. 4002-3415/PC977.00		Serial No. New Application	
Sheet 1 of 4				Applicant Jeff R. Justis			
				Filing Date Herewith		Group	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*Examiner Initial		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Filing Date If appropriate
	1	2,338,159	01/1944	Appleton			
	2	4,335,715	06/1982	Kirkley			
	3	4,545,374	10/1985	Jacobson			
	4	4,573,448	03/1986	Kambin			
	5	4,722,331	02/1988	Fox			
	6	4,883,048	11/1989	Purnell et al.			
	7	4,896,661	01/1990	Bogert et al.			
	8	4,955,885	09/1990	Meyers			
	9	5,163,940	11/1992	Bourque et al.			
	10	5,242,443	07/1993	Kambin			
	11	5,242,444	09/1993	MacMillan			
	12	5,281,223	01/1994	Ray			
	13	5,334,205	08/1994	Cain			
	14	5,383,454	01/1995	Bucholz			
	15	5,437,667	08/1995	Papierski et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation
							Yes No
	42	WO 97/30666	08/1997	PCT			
	43	WO 97/38639	10/1997	PCT			
	44	WO 99/15097	04/1999	PCT			
	45	WO 99/26549	06/1999	PCT			
	46	197 26 754 A1	06/1997	DE			X
Examiner				Date Considered			
*Examiner: initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

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Sheet 2 of 4				Applicant Jeff R. Justis			
				Filing Date Herewith		Group	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*Examiner Initial		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Filing Date If appropriate
	16	5,591,165	01/1997	Jackson			
	17	5,591,167	01/1997	Laurain et al.			
	18	5,569,248	10/1996	Mathews			
	19	5,601,562	02/1997	Wolf et al.			
	20	5,613,971	03/1997	Lowery et al.			
	21	5,643,273	07/1997	Clark			
	22	5,681,320	10/1997	McGuire			
	23	5,704,937	01/1998	Martin			
	24	5,720,751	02/1998	Jackson			
	25	5,725,532	03/1998	Shoemaker			
	26	5,735,857	04/1998	Lane			
	27	5,741,266	04/1998	Moran et al.			
	28	5,752,962	05/1998	D'Urso			
	29	5,772,594	06/1998	Barrick			
	30	5,851,183	12/1998	Bucholz			
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		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation Yes No
	47	WO 00/44288	08/2000	PCT			
	48	SU-0839513	06/1981	SU			X (Abstract)
Examiner				Date Considered			
*Examiner: initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

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				Filing Date Herewith		Group	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*Examiner Initial		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Filing Date If appropriate
	31	5,871,445	02/1999	Bucholz			
	32	5,891,034	04/1999	Bucholz			
	33	5,891,150	04/1999	Chan			
	34	5,891,158	04/1999	Manwaring et al.			
	35	5,910,141	06/1999	Morrison et al.			
	36	6,036,692	03/2000	Burel et al.			
	37	6,099,528	08/2000	Saurat			
	38	6,123,707	09/2000	Wagner			
	39	6,226,548	05/2001	Foley et al.			
	40	6,235,028	05/2001	Brumfield et al.			
	41	2002/0045904	04/2002	Fuss et al.			7/26/01
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation
							Yes No
Examiner				Date Considered			
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		Filing Date Herewith	Group
Page 4 of 4			
Examiner Initial		PUBLICATION	
	49	Sofamor Danek; <u>The Spine Specialist, TSRH Pedicle Screw Spinal System, Severe Spondylolisthesis of L5-S1 Grade 3 & 4</u> ; Surgical Technique as described by Edward H. Simmons, MD, Edward D. Simmons, Jr. MD, Howard D. Markowitz, MD ©1997	
	50	Sofamor Danek, The Spine Specialist; <u>Horizon Spinal System, Surgical Technique</u> ; as described by Samuel J. Laufer, M.D., J. Andrew Bowe, M.D. ©1999	
	51	Posterior Percutaneous Spine Instrumentation; 9 Supp 1) Eur Spine J (2000) Received 3 September 1999 Accepted 4 September 1999	
Examiner		Date Considered	
*Examiner: initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.			